

AL-V-A-250

C & P Railroad Switchback No. 9
Zihlman
Public

1850

Switchback No. 9 was constructed in 1850 by the Mt. Savage Iron Company as part of their track extension from Mt. Savage to Frostburg. (Bulletin No. 66, p. 43). It, as well as one in Mt. Savage, were necessary to make the 800 foot climb in 7.7 miles from Mt. Savage to Frostburg.

It is significant as an engineering accomplishment, which facilitated the transport of coal from the Georges Creek region for 124 years.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

C & P Railroad Switchback No. 9

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Off Hope Road, Old C & P RR (Western Maryland RR) bed, extending from approx. 1/2 to

CITY, TOWN 1 1/2 miles northeast of Frostburg

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Zihlman

X VICINITY OF

6th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☒ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED☒ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☒ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Chessie System (CSX Corporation)

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland 21502

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

AL-V-A 250

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR
☒ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Switchback No. 9 was constructed in 1850 by the Mt. Savage Iron Company as part of their track extension from Mt. Savage to Frostburg. (Bulletin No. 66, p. 43). It, as well as one in Mt. Savage, were necessary to make the 800 foot climb in 7.7 miles from Mt. Savage to Frostburg.

The main line ran southwest from Mt. Savage to the yards at Borden Mines, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile northwest of Frostburg. Trains were then backed approximately 1.1 miles northeast to Switch No. 9, located near Consolidation Coal Company's Mine No. 9. The trains then proceeded into Frostburg.

In 1912, the Western Maryland Railway completed a connection from Cumberland to the Pennsylvania Railroad at Connelsville. Three bridges were constructed within the switchback system: two to carry the switchback over the Western Maryland line and one to carry it under the Western Maryland line. (Mellander, p. 9)(See photos). In 1974, the Western Maryland Railway discontinued use of the switchback; the track between the No. 9 switch and the Frostburg Railroad station was subsequently taken up. (Mellander, p. 22).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

1850

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Switchback No. 9 is significant as an engineering accomplishment, which facilitated the transport of coal from the Georges Creek region for 124 years.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hicks, W.R. "The Cumberland & Pennsylvania Railroad," Bulletin No. 66. Boston: T
Railway and Locomotive Historical Society, Inc., 1945.

Mellander, Deane E. Rails to the Big Vein - The Short Lines of Allegany County
Maryland. Potomac Chapter, National Railway Historical Society, 1981.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Donna Ware, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Bureau of Mines

DATE

November 1980

STREET & NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

301-269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

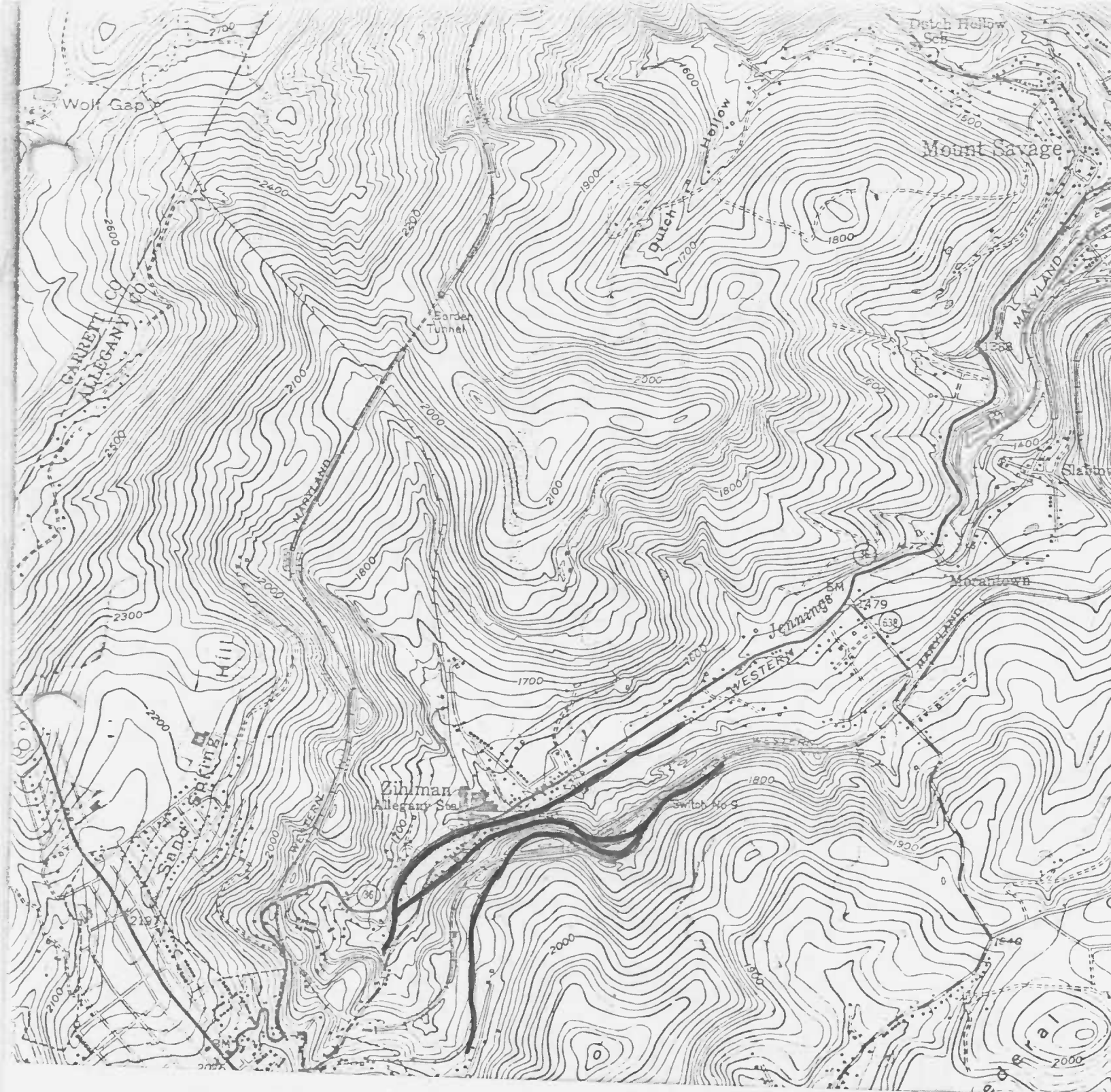
STATE

Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created
by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the
Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA,
1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information
and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringe-
ment of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



Frostburg, MD-PA
USGS 7.5 Minute Series
Scale 1:24,000
1949; photorevised 1974

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C & P Railroad Switchback No. 9
Off Hope Road, Old C & P Railroad
(Western Maryland RR) bed, extending
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of Frostburg



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C&P RR Switchback

ALlegany Co., MD

David A. Dorsey

Looking East



AL-V-A-0250

C&P RR Switchback

Allegany Co., MD

David A. Dorsey 11/80

Looking West



The Way you get to Frostburg by Rail, zig zag up the Mountain. Altitude 2,250 feet.

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C & P Railroad Switchback No. 9
Allegany County, Maryland

Dave Dorsey 11/80 - Looking W.

Old Photo: Al Feldstein Collection